

IPS Doc. No. 3328
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from the YOMIURI

Exhibit No. _____

Sketch of the New Cabinet Minister
Navy Minister SHIMADA, Shigetarō
Possesses a Sturdy Character
A Talented Man Who Will be Responsible for the Navy
During the Emergency

----- /T.N. First line of the clipping is torn off/
----- at a grave crisis, Admiral SHIMADA, Shigetarō, gallantly climbed to the post of Navy Minister in the TOJO Cabinet. One year and four months after becoming the Commander in Chief of the China Area Fleet he was promoted to the post of Commander in Chief of the Yokosuka Naval Station. He took his office in Yokosuka on October 1st, and eighteen days later he was appointed to the post of Navy Minister, the head of the Imperial Navy. Therefore, his was a hop-step-and jump advancement. The 1904 graduating class of the Naval Academy of which he was a member produced four admirals such as the famous Admiral YAMAMOTO, Isoroku, the Commander in Chief of the Combined Fleet and concurrently of the First Fleet; Supreme War Councilors YOSHIDA, Zengo, the former Navy Minister and SHIOZAWA, Koichi, the former Commander in Chief of the Yokosuka Naval Station. This SHIMADA's class was famous in Navy circles, its reputation being such that at class reunions during his ensign days, they used to wonder how many admirals will appear from among the array of talented men.

After the installation ceremony and after the first Cabinet Conference was brought to a close, Navy Minister SHIMADA's first statement was encouraging and was brimming with his firm faith to the effect that "I will serve unselfishly to the best of my ability in this difficult crisis, and will try to bring about an unshakable unity with the Department, and will promote and strive for a close cooperation between the Army and the Navy, and for the settlement of the national crisis through the united efforts of the military, officials, and people". The department, too, intends to unite firmly with an iron will, with the new Minister as the nucleus, and thus fulfil the expectations of the people by tiding over this extraordinary crisis. There is something marvelous in the high spirit of the Imperial Navy. It is in complete unity with the iron will of TOJO who is concurrently the Premier and War Minister, who states, "I shall step up to the foreground and deal with national affairs, and give assistance to the Imperial policy". The Navy can display here the essence of mutual dependence.

As can be seen in the new Minister's personal history, he has spent half of his naval career in staff positions, having served as a staff officer of the Naval General Staff, Chief of Staff of Fleets, Vice Chief of Naval General Staff, etc. Therefore, he has no experience in the field of naval administration. Since he is a rank amateur, so to speak, his ability as a Minister may be an unknown quantity. However, although he may have no experience in naval administration, since he was in headquarters as Chief of the First Department of the Naval General Staff, and as a Vice Chief of the

Naval General Staff, he served for a long time under close connection and cooperation with naval administration, so he should really belong in the category of experts. Much can be expected of his ability as a Minister when we consider his performance in displaying rare abilities in dealing with the crisis during the early part of the present China Incident when he as the Vice Chief of the Naval General Staff assisted the Chief of the Naval General Staff, Prince FUSHIMI, and when we consider his ability in dealing with the difficult work concerning foreign relations and civilians in the Shanghai area during the Shanghai Incident when he was the Chief of Staff of the Third Fleet. After he entered the Naval career, he participated in the Russo-Japanese War, and during the German-Japanese war he participated in the attack of Tsintao, and he displayed his sharpness as the Chief of Staff of the Third Fleet during the Shanghai Incident. There is an anecdote to the effect that when Admiral NOMURA, Kichisaburo, the Commander in Chief was injured by a bomb and was taken to the hospital, he said, "I feel at ease because SHIMADA is here", and went on the operating table with an easy mind relying upon Chief of Staff SHIMADA. After that he served successively as the Chief of Staff of the Second Fleet, Chief of Staff of the Combined Fleet and concurrently of the First Fleet. Entering the Naval General Staff, he served as the Chief of its First Department and then became the Vice Chief of the Naval General Staff. After serving as Commander in Chief of the Kure Naval Station, he became the Commander in Chief of the China Area Fleet. He thus treaded straight on the path of an admiral, and was appointed an admiral last year. While serving with the China Area Fleet, he led and commanded subordinate fleets and units for the strengthening of the blockade of the 2,800 nautical-mile long coast of China, the bombing of the interiors, and the close joint operations with the army. He thus served meritoriously, and recently he was honoured by special favors as a victorious admiral. He is blessed by the so-called fortunes of war. His meritorious record in the Shanghai Incident is expressed clearly by the medal of the Third Class Imperial Military Order of the Golden Kite which gleams from his chest.

He is an EDOKKO /T.N. a true Tokyoite/ to the core, having been born in Asakusa. From his birthplace also came his senior Admiral TAKAHASHI, Sankichi, and like his senior, SHIMADA, too, was trained in the Staff Headquarter circles. While stationed in Tokyo, he paid daily homage to the Meiji Shrine, rain or shine, and has never missed a day. When he became the Commander in Chief of the Yokosuka Naval Station, he first paid a visit to the Sochinju Suwa Shrine, and prayed for eternal success in war. Thus he is a pious man.

Although he is such a man blessed by the fortunes of war, he is unlucky as a family man having lost his father MEISHU when he was stationed in Italy during the First World War, and having been unable to be at his widowed mother WAKA's (86 years old) side last year when she passed away. The Admiral must have felt very lonesome at the front, with his heart torn between his deep filial duty and his duty as a warrior commanding a mighty fleet, when he received words that his mother was in a critical condition at the Tsukiji Naval Hospital. It is said that when a staff officer of the

Commander in Chief came to Tokyo on an official mission, he paid a visit to the widow WAKA at the hospital, and told her of the Commander in Chief's good health; whereupon the widow said, "SHIMADA need not worry about my illness, so please tell him to work hard for the country", and tried to encourage her son the Admiral; this brought tears to the staff officer's eyes. Like mother like son.

It is a well-known fact in the navy circle that when he was a commander of a submarine division, he underwent much hardship in making important studies under the Squadron Commander Rear-Admiral SUYETSUGU, Nobumasa (now an admiral). At that time, our submarine training was far from perfect, and had many accidents. SUYETSUGU, the Squadron Commander, imposed out such an intensive training, that he was apt to be criticized. SHIMADA went through the intensive training with the indomitable faith that "everything will turn out all right if we buckle down". As a result, accidents gradually diminished, the foundation for the present was made. Later SHIMADA also served as the Commandant of the Submarine School. It is a well established fact that he contributed much to our submarine tactics which now boasts world superiority.

Now when the waves of the Pacific are getting rougher, and when the era of submarine activities is being expected, the feelings of Navy Minister SHIMADA must run deeper than ever.

The Minister is a tactful and cheerful man, and as his physiognomy indicates, he has a happy and prosperous bearing, and a warm friendliness. He has none of the stiffness peculiar to military men. Although he is not very strong when it comes to liquor, but he can drink sufficiently enough for social functions. He seems soft at a sight, but he conceals a hidden sturdiness, but he has practically never lost his temper. Now being a Navy Minister during an emergency, he needs not be reserved or modest toward anyone. We want him to express his sturdiness to his heart's desire, and save the situation by making the Imperial Navy which he commands worthy of the people's trust with the "indomitable spirit" which he referred to in his inauguration message. Much is expected of Navy Minister SHIMADA.

C E R T I F I C A T E

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, Masayoshi Sakurai hereby certify that I am officially connected with the YOMIURI SHIMBUN in the following capacity: Chief of Records Dept of the Editorial Bureau, the Press Yomiuri, and that as such official I hereby certify that the document hereto attached and described as follows: Newspaper clipping of an article entitled, "Sketch of the new cabinet Minister, Navy Minister SHIMADA, Shigetaro," was published in the Yomiuri SHIMBUN on 24 October 1941.

Signed at Tokyo on this

3rd day of Dec, 1947.

/s/ Masayoshi Sakurai
Signature of Official
SEAL

Witness: /s/ Seigi Yamamoto

Chief of Record Dept.
Official Capacity

Statement of Official Procurement

I, JOHNSON F. MUNROE, hereby certify that I am associated with the General Headquarters of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, and that the above certification was obtained by me from the above signed official of the Yomiuri SHIMBUN in the conduct of my official business.

Signed at Tokyo on this

3rd day of December, 1947

/s/ Johnson F. Munroe
NAME

Witness: /s/ Henry Shiojima

INVESTIGATOR, IPS
Official Capacity

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Exhibit No.

新閣僚の素描

嶋田繁太郎海相

内蔵する豪毅

非常時海軍を權ふ逸材

(一行不明)

とする重大時局に嶋田繁太郎大將は東條内閣の
海相に颯爽と登場した。支那方面艦隊司令長官から
一軍四ヶ月下横須賀鎮守府司令長官に栄転し
十月一日横須賀に着任して十合目に帝國海軍總元帥
の海軍大臣に栄転した。下であるが、すでに三段跳びの
栄進である。明治廿七年海軍兵学校を卒業して
同期生には今を時めく聯合艦隊司令長官兼第一
艦隊司令長官山本五十六大將、元海軍大臣吉田
善吾、元横須賀鎮守府司令長官塩沢幸一の両
軍事参議官等クラスでズバリと四人も大將を生んだ
この嶋田クラスは逸材揃ひだった。

大將末三つうちから数人大將が下さるだらうかと尉官時
代クラス会で早くも評判が立たくらう部内にも有名なコ
スである。

親任を終り初閣議散会後嶋田海相の言葉は
容易ならぬ非常時局に當り處々匪類の誠を盡し部
内一糸系れる結果をいかり、また陸海軍緊密に協

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海軍生活に入ると日露戦争、それから日独戦争には青島
攻略戦に参加する。上海事変では第三艦隊参謀長で
忙しかつた。司令長官野村吉三郎大將は爆弾の洗礼
を受け傷つて病院に早退すると、嶋田が居るから代へて、
と嶋田参謀長を信頼し、定例の手続きをいっしょにこ
ねた。それから第二艦隊参謀長、聯合艦隊兼第一艦隊
参謀長と歴任して中史に入り、軍令部第一部長、軍令部
次長となり、更に第二艦隊司令長官、吳鎮守府司令長官
を経て支那方面艦隊司令長官と担々たる大將街道をま
くろくに進み、昨年海軍大將に親任された。支那方面艦隊に
在任中、三千八百哩に亘る支那沿岸封鎖強化に、或は奥
地爆撃、陸軍と緊密なる協同作戦と、その麾下艦隊、
諸部隊等を統率指揮して支那事変処理に赫々たる武
勳を

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たて先般凱施提督の殊遇を賜けるの光栄に浴した。いはゆる戦争運といふが武運にめぐまれたほうである。上は事変の功績は胸に輝く功三級金鵄勲章が燦然と物語っている。

東京の浅草で生れた生粋の江戸っ子である。郷黨の先輩として高橋三吉大將ともちろその先輩と同じ軍令系統で云つた。明治神宮参拜は雨が降らうが風が吹かうが東京に在勤中はたゞ一日も缺かしたことがない。横濱賀鎮守府司令長官に着任するとまづ總鎮守諏訪神社に参拝して武運長久を祈るといつた敬神家である。

かうして武運にめぐまれた大匠だが家庭の人としては第一次歐洲大戰當時イタリアに駐在し嚴父命周氏を喪ひ昨年は上海方面第一線にあつた母堂わ刀自(六)の臨終に子としてのみとりがでなかつた不遇の身であつた。築地海軍病院で療養中の母堂病篤しの情報を手にもあつた提督は第一線に三軍を指揮する武人の譽れを胸にきむしうれしき思いで寂しく味ふことであらう。公用で上京した長官幕僚は病院にわ刀自と見舞つて長官が無事を傳へると刀自は「嶋田には私の病氣は心配なかつた十分所國のため働くやう傳へてほしい」と伴提督を激勵し幕僚を泣かしたといふ。この母にしてこの提督を生んだのである。

潜水隊司令時代戦隊司令官末次信正少將(現大將)の下に貴重を研究に苦難をなめたことは部内で有名だが當時わが潜水艦訓練はなほ完成の域に遠く事故が多かつた。末次司令官は動もすると非難を浴びちなほと猛訓練をやつた。

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「アに緊張し、(すくは大丈夫だ)と固い信念をもつて猛訓
練をやり抜いた。この結果次第に事故が少くなり、今日の基礎を築き
上げることになった。嶋田司令はその後潜水学校長も勤めた。現在
世界にその優秀を誇るのが潜水艦戦術に貢献すること多かったこ
とはろんである。いや太平洋の波濤、やがてに高く潜水艦活躍
時代が待望される時、海軍総元締め嶋田海相の感慨こそ一入深
かろう。

大臣は圓轉滑脱にして明訓、その相貌が示すごとく福德圓滿
人をついて親しみをもてゐる。軍人に特有の主角は少しもない。
酒はいけるほうではないが寧ろ席を立つと飲を程度のみ、酒にあり。
一見柔らかなるが内には剛毅なところを秘藏してゐるが殆ど発散
したことがない。しかし非常時局の海軍大臣ともなれば誰に遠
慮もいらない。内藏する剛毅を思ふ存分発散し新佐挨拶、
「予抱不屈の精神」をもつてその統率する帝國海軍を「國
民の信頼にこたへ時艱を突破して敬し、嶋田海相に期待す
るところ極めて大きい。

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証 明 書

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典 據 及 び 公 正 二 関 ス ル 証 明

余、サウライ・マサヨシハ余ガ下記ニ資格ニ於テ即チ讀賣新聞編輯
局記録部長トシテ讀賣新聞トハ關係ニ在リタルコト、並ニ
該職員トシテ爲ニ添付セシムル下記「新聞條々」主筆嶋田繁
太郎海相ト題スル新聞記事切抜、文書ハ千九百四十二年昭和
十七年十一月二十四日讀賣新聞ニ掲載セシムルモノナルコトヲ
茲ニ証明ス。

千九百四十七年（昭和三十三年）十一月三日

東京ニ於テ署名

当該職員署名欄 サウライ・マサヨシ

右者ハ公ハ資格讀賣新聞編輯局記録部長

証 人 ハモト・セイキ

ハニ式ハ手ニ関スル 証 明

余、Johnson & Munroe、余ガ聯合國最高指揮官總司令部關係
ニ在リタルコト、並ニ上記証明ハ余ガ公認讀賣新聞ニ記者
名職員ニ入手ニタルモノナルコトヲ茲ニ証明ス。

千九百四十七年（昭和三十三年）十一月三日

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